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ABSTRACT

This list of essential skills for social studies emerged from a statewide effort to identify a scope and sequence of content, concepts, and skills in social studies from kindergarten through grade eight and for the United States History course at the high school level. These skills are meant to be included in the curriculum along with concepts and enrichment activities. The skills that should be introduced and developed are listed for the appropriate grade levels. Skills dealing with awareness of self in a social setting are introduced in kindergarten. Grade one skills deal with the individual in the primary groups of the family and school. The skills involved in meeting basic needs in nearby social groups or neighborhoods are presented in grade two. Grade three skills concern the community within the country and the world. Skills needed to understand the states and regions are developed in grade four. Grade five is involved in developing skills to understand the United States and its neighbors in North America. World geography skills are introduced in grade six. The people and cultures of the past are explored, through the appropriate skills, in grade seven. Skills needed to understand U.S. history and citizenship are introduced in grade eight. The skills needed for further understanding of U.S. history are developed in grade 11. (SM)

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

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Kentucky Department of Education
Alice McDonald, Superintendent of Public Instruction
August 1987

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FOREWORD

The essential skills for social studies emerged from a statewide effort to identify a scope and sequence of content, concepts, and skills in social studies from kindergarten through grade eight and for the United States History course at the high school level.

It must be emphasized that the essential skills listed in this manual do not replace the curriculum in any school district. Rather, each curriculum should include these skills as well as those additional skills identified by the local district as necessary for the development of an educated individual.

On behalf of the Kentucky Department of Education, I wish to thank all those educators who gave their time and talent to this important task. Their dedication was an inspiration to us and their work has made a significant contribution to Kentucky.

Alice McDonald
Superintendent of Public Instruction

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On behalf of the Office of Instruction, I want to express our appreciation to those who have contributed to the development of this document. The staff of the Division of Program Development provided excellent guidance in the development of the lists of essential skills. The Office of Research and Planning provided assistance in the area of general skills assessment.

The contribution and recommendations from the many educators and lay citizens who reviewed the lists of skills as a part of the statewide review process were invaluable. Their involvement assures that these essential skills form an appropriate academic foundation which will serve us well as we move toward excellence.

The specific individuals who aided in the develop,ment of this list of essential skills are named at the end of the document. It is to them that we owe special thanks.

Margaret McClain, Associate Superintendent
Office of Instruction

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

PREFACE

The social studies skills developed for this list are those considered to be essential for a sound educational program. It is neither a complete social studies curriculum nor a minimum skills list with mastery of all skills expected of all students. Teachers and curriculum developers must keep in mind that a complete and balanced social studies curriculum must contain many additional skills, concepts, and enrichment topics.

It should be noted that although this list consists of specific skills, this in no way implies that teaching should follow a similar approach.

Users of this list should note that the grade level at which a skill is listed is that grade at which mastery is first expected. The grade levels at which skills are to be introduced, developed, maintained, and reviewed are to be determined at the local level. Thus, teachers must be aware not only of the skills listed at their particular grade levels but also the skills listed at the several grades following their levels.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

KINDERGARTEN
Awareness of Self in a Social Setting:
Myself and Others in the World

The student will:

SS0001 Determine directions such as up, down, over, under, and beside.

SS0002 Compare distances such as long, short, near, and far.

SS0003 Name and identify parts of the body.

SS0004 Recognize family relations and generation by group and sex.

SS0005 Recognize feelings in others and possible reasons for the feelings.

SS0006 Determine large/small in distinguishing items.

SS0007 Recognize the American flag.

SS0008 Recognize symbols for weather conditions.

SS0009 Recognize traffic control signals using color distinctions.

SS0010 Recognize types of landmark buildings (churches, schools, etc.)

SS0011 Recognize uniformed community service helpers.

SS0012 Recognize that clocks are used to tell time (digital and hands) in hours, minutes, and seconds.

SS0013 Recognize that a calendar is used to tell time in days, weeks, and years.

TEACHERS AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT A COMPLETE AND BALANCED SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM MUST CONTAIN MANY ADDITIONAL SKILLS, CONCEPTS, AND ENRICHMENT TOPICS.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 1
The Individual in Primary Groups:
Understanding School and Family Life in the World

The student will:

SS1001 Distinguish between left and right.

SS1002 Identify basic traffic signs.

SS1003 Identify basic means of transportation.

SS1004 Identify basic types of communication.

SS1005 Identify basic monetary denominations.

SS1006 Differentiate between maps and globes.

SS1007 Recognize land and water representations on maps and globes.

SS1008 Interpret map symbols using a legend.

SS1009 Relate climatic conditions to housing, clothing, transportation, and recreation.

SS1010 Identify the family provider of the basic economic needs for food, clothing and shelter.

SS1011 Identify different kinds of basic family units.

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 2
Meeting Basic Needs in Nearby Social Groups:
The Neighborhoods in the World

The student will:

SS2001 List seasons of the year.

SS2002 Identify in order days of the week.

SS2003 Identify in sequence months of the year.

SS2004 Identify national holidays.

SS2005 Identify the physical shape of the United States.

SS2006 Identify the physical shape of Kentucky.

SS2007 Identify interdependence among people and groups within the neighborhood as a community unit.

SS2008 Identify north, south, east, and west on a map. (Cardinal Directions)

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 3
Sharing Earth-Space with Others:
Our Country, Our Community, and Other Communities

The student will:

SS3001 Gather data from content readings.

SS3002 Use chapter and section headings to identify main ideas in content.

SS3003 Use picture clues and picture captions to aid understanding of content in social studies.

SS3004 Follow oral and written instructions to complete a task.

SS3005 Use a dictionary and an encyclopedia as a resource for oral and written reports.

SS3006 Use a map or globe and locate continents and oceans.

SS3007 Use major compass directions to locate points on a map and globe (N.E., N.W., S.E., S.W.)

SS3008 Use a scale to determine distances on a simple map and globe.

SS3009 Interpret a legend or key on a map.

SS3010 Identify mainlands, islands, oceans, rivers, equator, and poles on a map and globe.

SS3011 Differentiate between man-made and natural features.

SS3012 Prepare a simple map.

SS3013 Interpret simple graphs, pictures, charts, and tables related to content area.

SS3014 Record data on graphs, pictures, charts, and tables related to content area.

SS3015 Identify seasons of the year and relate them to specific months and activities associated with those seasons.

SS3016 Distinguish between urban and rural environments by their physical characteristics.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 3 (continued)

SS3017 Identify factors of interdependence among different peoples and groups within the country.

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 4
The People of a State and a Region:
Our State (Kentucky) and Regions of the United States

The student will:

SS4001 Locate the prime meridian on a map and globe.

SS4002 Use special purpose maps to identify and gather data. (vegetation, population, climate, product, landform, etc.)

SS4003 Organize data into oral and written reports.

SS4004 Compute the length of time between two given dates.

SS4005 Identify the shape of the United States and Kentucky on a world map and globe.

SS4006 Identify and locate Kentucky and its bordering states on a United States map.

SS4007 Identify major physical features of the World.

SS4008 Identify state symbols and their meanings (flag, seal, bird, flower, tree, holidays).

SS4009 Locate and identify the geographic characteristics that distinguish regions of Kentucky.

SS4010 Identify Kentucky's key natural resources, major crops, products, and industries.

SS4011 Identify Kentucky's key natural resources in the development of the different regions.

SS4012 Describe how people have adapted to and modified their environments in keeping with their values and needs.

SS4013 Describe how selected individuals and organizations made outstanding contributions to Kentucky's history.

SS4014 Compare and contrast Kentucky's region with other geographical regions of the United States.

SS4015 Distinguish among city, county, state, and nation.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 4 (continued)

SS4016 Identify the specialized roles of elected officials in state government.

SS4017 List major services provided by state government and identify state capital on a map of Kentucky.

SS4018 Identify Kentucky constitutional offices.

SS4019 Identify the members of Kentucky's congressional delegation.

SS4020 Locate the major urban centers of Kentucky on a map.

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 5
The People of North America:
The United States and Its Close Neighbors-
Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean

The student will:

SS5001 Distinguish among fact, fiction and opinion in written material by identifying examples.

SS5002 List historical events in chronological order.

SS5003 Identify appropriate library resource materials for a given topic or subject.

SS5004 Identify social studies terms by using the dictionary and glossary.

SS5005 Identify topics used in the content area of social studies by using a table of contents and index.

SS5006 Identify states and capitals of the United States by using a map.

SS5007 Identify the regions of the United States and the major physical features.

SS5008 Identify natural resources and economic activity in the United States and explain their relationship to the development of the United States.

SS5009 Identify the importance of physical settings in the location of major cities.

SS5010 Identify the basic activities of the three branches of the federal government.

SS5011 Identify the major documents developed during the founding of the nation.

SS5012 Identify past and present groups that immigrated to the United Stats, their purposes in coming, their contributions and the areas where they settled.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 5 (continued)

SS5013 Identify neighboring countries on a map of the western hemisphere.

SS5014 Identify geographic and cultural similarities and differences among the United States and neighboring countries.

SS5015 Identify basic forms of economic activity.

SS5016 Identify data from a map by using longitude, latitude, legends, and scales.

SS5017 Identify data from charts, graphs, and political cartoons.

TEACHERS AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT A COMPLETE AND BALANCED SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM MUST CONTAIN MANY ADDITIONAL SKILLS, CONCEPTS, AND ENRICHMENT TOPICS.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 6
A Changing World of Many Nations:
World Geography

The student will:

SS6001 Identify and locate topographical features.

SS6002 Identify places by using latitude and longitude.

SS6003 Identify distance, direction, scale, and map symbols.

SS6004 Identify and describe economic regions.

SS6005 Identify economic information from maps, globes, charts, graphs, and tables.

SS6006 Identify time zones and earth-sun relations.

SS6007 Identify a geographic region within a nation (e.g., climate, landform, vegetation).

SS6008 Identify trade routes, particularly those connecting developed and developing nations.

SS6009 Identify the cultural, racial, and religious characteristics of a nation.

SS6010 Describe problems and issues (global problems and global issues e.g. -- alcohol and drug abuse).

SS6011 Identify stages of cultural and economic development.

SS6012 Identify natural, cultural, and political boundaries.

SS6013 Explain the relationships among climate, technology, resources, and economic growth.

SS6014 Identify facts about nations using different sources of information (e.g., almanacs, periodicals, atlases, newspapers, and television).

SS6015 Identify geographic data to draw conclusions, to defend conclusions, and to make predictions.

SS6016 Distinguish between a political and a physical map.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 6 (continued)

SS6018 Identify systems of land measurement (acres, square miles, hectares).

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 7
World Civilizations of the Past:
People and Cultures

The student will:

SS7001 Identify and define culture.

SS7002 Identify and define civilization and societies.

SS7003 Identify elements of culture (e.g., art, literature, agriculture, technology).

SS7004 Identify the major contributions of civilizations.

SS7005 Classify major changes in a society.

SS7006 Identify examples of interdependence within cultures.

SS7007 Identify how societies at various levels of technological development view the use and conservation of natural resources.

SS7008 Identify the development of the representative form of government.

SS7009 Identify timelines to depict historical developments.

SS7010 Identify different map forms to compare and contrast areas.

SS7011 Distinguish between sources of information and select the proper source of information to retrieve a specific type of data.

SS7012 Identify geographical factors that influence historical development and cultural change.

SS7013 Locate sites of historical events on a map.

SS7014 Identify contributions of past civilizations to the present.

SS7015 Identify and define archeology and anthropology.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 7 (continued)

SS7016 Identify the relationship of a period's history, literature, and art forms.

SS7017 Identify requirements necessary for the development of a civilization.

SS7018 Identify trade routes.

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ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 8
Foundations of U. S. History and Citizenship

The student will:

SS8001 Identify the differences among propaganda, fact, and opinion.

SS8002 Identify cause and effect relationships and draw conclusions.

SS8003 Identify readings, graphs, maps, and political cartoons that make inference and draw conclusions.

SS8004 Identify the rights and responsibilities of a citizen in the United States.

SS8005 Identify and apply problem solving skills to a current issue.

SS8006 Distinguish the differences among various political systems.

SS8007 Identify major causes and effects of historical events.

SS8008 Identify the structure and function of local, state, and federal government.

SS8009 Identify landmark events in history.

SS8010 Identify the chronological order within major historical events.

SS8011 Identify information on retrieval charts.

SS8012 Identify the purposes of our constitution.

SS8013 Identify the beliefs which form the basis of our political system.

SS8014 Identify basic terms of the economic system of the United States.

SS8015 Distinguish between command and market economics.

SS8016 Identify the roles of major economic institutions.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 8 (continued)

SS8017 Identify the function of government in monitoring and regulating the economic system.

SS8018 Distinguish between a variety of sources and approaches to research.

SS8019 Identify the historical roots of a current event.

SS8020 Identify elements of cultural diversity in the United States.

TEACHERS AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT A COMPLETE AND BALANCED SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM MUST CONTAIN MANY ADDITIONAL SKILLS, CONCEPTS, AND ENRICHMENT TOPICS.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Social Studies

GRADE 11
United States History

The student will:

SS1101 Distinguish between fact, opinion and propaganda.

SS1102 Gather data from primary and secondary sources.

SS1103 Identify examples of bias and propaganda.

SS1104 Draw logical conclusions from data.

SS1105 Critically evaluate sources.

SS1106 Determine chronological order.

SS1107 Identify characteristics of historical periods.

SS1108 Identify events as "Landmark Events" in history.

SS1109 Identify factors which cause historical change (e.g., cultural, economic, social, etc.).

SS1110 Identify the historical roots of a current event.

SS1111 Identify a thematic timeline.

SS1112 Identify similarities and differences between political parties, their candidates, and their platform.

SS1113 Identify elements of foreign policy.

SS1114 Locate information by using maps, charts, graphs, tables, etc.

SS1115 Locate natural, cultural, and political boundaries.

SS1116 Relate geographic characteristics to historical development.

SS1117 Locate historical events on a map.

SS1118 Identify natural and human resources.

SS1119 Identify cultural trends in historical periods.

SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade 11 (continued)

SS1120 Identify conflicting viewpoints.

SS1121 Identify the correlation between geographic features and patterns of population.

SS1122 Relate economic theories to events and conditions.

SS1123 Compare and contrast economic systems.

SS1124 Identify the impact of technological change on individuals and societies.

SS1125 Relate social trends to the periods that produced them.

SS1126 Identify prejudice, stereotyping, and stereotyping behavior.

SS1127 Identify hypothetical solutions to problems.

SS1128 Identify examples of global economic interdependence in the world.

TEACHERS AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPERS MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT A COMPLETE AND BALANCED SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM MUST CONTAIN MANY ADDITIONAL SKILLS, CONCEPTS, AND ENRICHMENT TOPICS.

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